

BRIAN ASHTON

CONSULTANT

Brian is a qualified cartographer and spatial analyst whose strengths and abilities are within the production of high quality maps and spatial products. With extensive skills in data analysis, multimedia cartography, remote sensing and geography, Brian creates maps and data that can be used as information products to illustrate complex spatial situations. Coupled with Brian's IT knowledge and GIS skills, he has an ability to design a wide range of compelling and interactive multi-media content that focuses on creative and engaging communication of key messages.

In 2011 Brian established Harvest Digital Planning, a specialist planning consultancy that applies digital technologies to enhance urban planning and design projects. The services and products of Harvest Digital Planning are designed to empower stakeholders to actively participate in planning projects and to collect and synthesise information to produce rigorous and dynamic plans.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Darebin Integrated Housing Strategy (Harvest) **Darebin City Council, VIC**

Brian was responsible for the design and development of a website that would support and communicate the key messages of Darebin's Integrated Housing Strategy. Working closely with Council Brian helped produce maps that identified the constraints and opportunities for future housing as well as other graphics and content that could help clearly convey councils' strategy. The website also enabled residents to engage with the planning process as well as provide feedback about the strategy and contribute their own ideas and key issues for future housing in the municipality.

Boroondara Neighbourhood Character Study (Harvest) **City of Boroondara, VIC**

Brian helped identify the existing and preferred character of each neighbourhood through the creation of a series of maps categorizing the key characteristics across the municipality. Additionally Brian helped design and deliver an online questionnaire and web mapping application which enabled residents to view and comment directly on the precinct character boundaries and provide feedback on draft character statements. This effective two-way communication enabled the creation of more accurate character statements and the development of relevant design guidelines.

Young Rural Planning (DLA) **Young Shire Council, NSW**

Working with Sue Haertsch Planning, Brian was primarily responsible for the production of maps and plans to support the planning for rural living in Young, a small rural community in NSW. Specifically Brian was responsible for performing advanced spatial multi-criteria analysis of the study area, using GIS, to determine how suitable land was for both agriculture and rural living purposes. This particular method helped determine whether there was a clear preference for agriculture or rural living and consequently enable council to set rigorous planning controls for areas that should be protected for future farming and for areas that should be allowed to be subdivided for living purposes.

Botany Bay LEP Standards and Urban Design Controls Study (DLA)

City of Botany Bay, NSW

Brian provided GIS and spatial analysis expertise to help support the development of the Local Environment Plan (LEP) controls and standards within the City of Botany Bay. Brian's responsibilities included utilising GIS to map the constraints within the study areas as well as identify the key sites and development opportunities. Another of Brian's key tasks was to prepare GIS layers for the proposed land use zoning, building height and floor space controls according to the new standard technical requirements for LEP maps outlined by the NSW Department of Planning. These controls have been incorporated into the NSW State Government planning system.

Community Infrastructure Analysis for Corio & Norlane (DLA)

City of Greater Geelong, VIC

Brian prepared a social infrastructure provision assessment for the suburbs of Corio and Norlane on behalf of the City of Greater Geelong. The assessment included utilising GIS to spatially analyse accessibility to key social facilities and to identify potential service improvements with the goal of creating healthy and sustainable communities.

Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy (DLA)

Greater Shepparton City Council, VIC

Brian was responsible for analysing and mapping the land constraints from existing infrastructure and environmental factors in order to identify the available and future land supply for the entire municipality. Brian also played an integral part in identifying and mapping, in consultation with the client, the sequencing of the land supply, providing guidance as to when land should be developed by five year increments.

PROFFESIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director

HARVEST DIGITAL PLANNING
2011

Cartographer & GIS Analyst

DAVID LOCK ASSOCIATES (DLA)
Melbourne, Australia
2008 - 2011

Research Assistant

RMIT University
2008

IT Adviser

KPMG
Melbourne, Australia
2006 - 2008

QUALIFICATIONS

**Master of Applied Science
(Geospatial Information)**

RMIT University
2008

**Bachelor of Engineering
(Computer Systems)**

RMIT University
2005

Bachelor of Business Administration

RMIT University
2005

**Member of the Surveying &
Spatial Sciences Institute (SSSI)**

Harvest Digital Planning

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